



**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2010
County Administration Center**

Voting Members Present

Hon. Cynthia Bashant; Alfredo Aguirre; Christine Lafontant (for Brian Albright); Katherine Smith-Brooks; JoAnne Bushby; Lyn Ceresino Neault (for Constance Carroll); Margarita deRuyter; Michele Linley (for Bonnie Dumanis); Greg Barnett (for William Gore); Dr. Dawn Griffin; Laura Mustari (for Paula Guerra); Dixie Galapon (for Margaret Iwanaga-Penrose); Mack Jenkins; Barbara Jimenez; Joe Fulcher (for Bill Kowba); [Martha Crowe](#) (for Sharon Lawrence); Madison Romo (for Donna Ewing Marto); Paula Ingram (for Sandra McBrayer); Walter Philips; Meredith Riffel; John Philips (for John Sansone); Michelle Soltero; Donald Stump; Loretta Middleton (for Randolph Ward); Daphyne Watson; Amethyst Cureg (for Wilma Wooten); Debra Zanders-Willis

Alternate Members Present

None

Visitors Present

Michele Solomon (Health & Human Services Behavioral Health); Angela Chen (UPAC); Cristina Sanchez (Dependency Legal Group); Tilisha Martin (Dependency Legal Group); Carolyn Levenberg (Dependency Legal Group); Judith Radke; Dante Davz (UPAC)

Staff Present

Renee Rambus, Harold Randolph, Tonya Torosian

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by Honorable Cynthia Bashant. Everyone present introduced themselves, stating their name and affiliation.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Approval of the Minutes – May 7, 2010

Due to the lack of a quorum an informal meeting ensued until a quorum was established. The presentation was moved to beginning of the agenda.

IV. Presentations

Alliance for Community Empowerment (ACE) Program; Angela Chen, Director of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Dante Dauz, ACE Program Supervisor, Union of Pan Asian Communities.

Angela Chen, Program Director for UPAC, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Dante Dauz, Program Manager, UPAC Alliance for Community Empowerment (ACE) gave a PowerPoint overview of the ACE. Ms. Chen stated that ACE is a PEI, MHS program Prevention in Early Intervention which targets youth, siblings and families of gang members of those exposed to, or at risk of exposure to violence. The goals of the program are to increase individual, families, community resilience, reduce the impact of community violence and the trauma and reduce the negative impact of gangs. Ms. Chen reported that ACE also has partnerships with three different organizations in the program Jackie Robinson Family YMCA who has been children and families of San Diego for 125 years, PowerMentor works towards motivating community based organizations in mentoring and intervention strategies to foster positive young adults, and Overcoming Gangs and Beyond founded in 2003 by former gang members to provide support against gang violence and promote peaceful communities.

Dante Dauz, Program Manager, UPAC stated that Mobile Response Team provides support, resources, and linkages to people affected by community violence. ACE has two Mobile Response Teams that serve City Heights and South East San Diego in their surrounding areas. The Teams can response to anything from homicide to a kid getting bullied on the bus. The Leadership Academy develops prosperous youth by enhancing their value system, personal esteem, and community respect and is located in the some of the schools (i.e., Knox Elementary School, Crawford High School and Jackie Robinson Family YMCA). ACE has developed gang awareness classes to assists parents and youth with "realistic" techniques and methods to prevent or overcome gang behavior.

Mr. Dauz stated that ACE referral services are at convenient locations and at no charge. The referral line phone number is 1-800-ACE-9458 you can also fax in the referral form at 1-619-265-2409.

Members commended Ms. Chen and Mr. Dauz on their program and for delivering outstanding services to the community.

Approval of the Minutes – May 7, 2010

A quorum was established at 2.25 pm.

Motion made by Donald Stump and seconded by Laura Mustari to accept the minutes of May 7, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Report from the Chair

- Judge Bashant thanked every one for attending the Commission Retreat on July 23, 2010. The enthusiasm and passion for the process of defining the focus areas for 2010- 2012 at the retreat made the planning very productive.
- Judge Bashant announced that The Children's Initiative approached the Commission with the idea of having a meeting with other advisory boards and community organizations for the purpose of an update and presentation on Kidsdata.org. KidsData is an online source for data about the health and well-

being of children throughout the state of California. This site, funded by the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, grew from local children's reports in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and has recently expanded to offer data for all cities, school districts, and counties in California — including, of course, San Diego County. Their goal is to make data easily accessible for everyone and to raise the visibility of key issues affecting our children.

We decided to hold this meeting following our regularly scheduled November Commission meeting (November 5, 2010). We will convene a short Commission meeting to address any action items prior to or following the main program. Please be prepared to keep this meeting on your calendar as there will be an action item that will need your vote. The location has not been determined and will be provided at a later date.

VI. Action Items

Judge Bashant reported that at the last Executive Committee meeting the Commission's current membership was discussed which included members' attendance, vacant seats, and membership composition for 2010/ 2012. Over the next few meetings we anticipate some proposals for increasing or decreasing the Commission membership. If there are members not attending on a regular basis or vacancies unfilled, a letter will be sent to the representative to see if they are still interested in being part of the Commission and its new goals for the next two years.

Judge Bashant acknowledged the representatives from the Dependency Legal Group (DLG), which has taken over the contract representing children and parents were in the audience today (Carolyn Levenberg, Tilisha Martin, and Cristina Sanchez). We will be substituting a representative from DLG for the Office of Public Defender as DLG is the contracted provider as of July 1, 2010.

1. Nomination and Approval to Fill Current Membership and Vacancies

1. Today's action will nominate for submission to and confirmation by the Board of Supervisors Jorge Cabrera, Casey Family Programs, Executive Director to be added to the Commission membership.
2. Motion Required

The Executive Committee is recommending Casey Family Programs, Jorge Cabrera to be added as a Commission member.

Motion made by JoAnne Bushby and seconded by Michelle Soltero to nominate for submission to and confirmation by the Board of Supervisors Jorge Cabrera, Casey Family Programs, Executive Director to be added to the Commission membership. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion to review the Commission's committee structure for sunsetting and establishing standing committees.

1. Today's recommended action will sunset and establish standing committees of the Commission.
2. Motion Required

Judge Bashant stated that the Commission voted on three goals that the Commission will address over the next two years: Alcohol and other drug use among teens, Transitioning age youth (out of the

dependency and delinquency systems) and Chronic absenteeism in elementary school children (K-3). At the retreat, presentations were made on each area followed by group discussion and keeping in mind the concerns of the Commission which is collaboration and reducing the disproportion number of minority in the juvenile system. Secondly, a presentation on Disaportionality was made by Daphyne Watson, chair of the Fairness and Equity Committee. The final report and notes from the retreat was sent to all members for review. The next step is take the ideas and move forward with implementation and send the report and notes to the subcommittees of the Commission and have the Committees report back to the Commission.

The current committee structure is Executive Committee; Joint Domestic Violence Council/Child Abuse Prevention Committee; Joint Education/Foster Youth Advisory Committee; Partnership Committee, which is being proposed to disband because its focus and goal of system collaboration is the same as the Commission; The LEAP Council, Judge Bashant proposed that a new committee be formed composed of individuals from LEAP and co-chaired by LEAP along with an attorney who represents minor in the dependency system (DLG) and called the committee Transitioning Youth into Adulthood and task it with working on the goal of transitioning youth out of dependency and delinquency systems; Fairness and Equity Committee, which is being proposed to sunset and Judge Bashant suggested that members from this committee consider serving on each of the standing committees. Additionally, The Fairness and Equity Committee decided to form a Juvenile Court Action Team consisting of Child Welfare Services, Probation and representatives from the community group "Save Our Children" which will meet monthly at Juvenile Court. Judge Bashant requested that the Team make reports to the Commission two-three times a year on its progress. The final proposed new committee is the Teen Alcohol and Other Drug Use Committee.

Judge Bashant stated that the along with the support of the Executive Committee the following proposed committees structure for the Commission for the next two years or until other goals are established is:

1. Executive Committee
2. Child Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Committee
3. Education Committee
4. LEAP Council
5. Transition Age Youth
6. Teen Alcohol and Other Drug Use

The committees that will sunset are:

1. Fairness and Equity Committee which was decided to sunset because its focus and goals will be represented in each of the proposed committees.
2. Partnership Committee which was decided to sunset because its focus and goals will be represented in each of the proposed committees.

Judge Bashant encouraged members to participate in one of the committees and also noted that an individual does not have to be a Commission member to participate as a member of a committee. The Committees will report back to the Commission to provide an update on the Committee's progress.

Motion made by John Philips and seconded by JoAnne Bushby that the Commission accept the committees' structure as presented by Judge Bashant. The motion passed unanimously.

Members asked if a schedule of the various meeting will be available in order to manger their schedules. Tonya stated that members will be sent an updated schedule once the meeting dates and

times have been confirmed. She will also call or email each member to see what committee they are interested in serving on along with the Commission committee description.

VII. Additional Business

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Written by Renee Rambus